

# IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Longtime penitentiary employee found unresponsive on prison grounds, pronounced dead later**

JACKSON, MISS. – A longtime Mississippi Department of Corrections employee who retired in August was found unresponsive on prison grounds Monday afternoon and later pronounced dead at a local hospital.

Jimmy Ross Hunt, 49, had been moving from assigned housing at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman. He retired Aug. 31.

“Our sincere condolences to Mr. Hunt’s family, former colleagues, and friends,” Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall said. “It is shocking to learn of his sudden death, and especially so soon after retirement.”

Emergency personnel performed CPR on Hunt before he was transported by ambulance to North Sunflower Medical Center in Ruleville.

Hunt, hired Jan. 2, 1992, spent his career at Parchman. He was a correctional officer and a K-9 officer. Also, he had worked with the Corrections Investigation Division (CID), where he retired as an evidence technician.

Although no foul play is suspected, the MDOC has requested assistance from the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation (MBI) in investigating the death.